

## **II. REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

### **A. Status of the Claims**

Claims 38, 55, 65, and 68 have been amended without prejudice or admission to recite “a COX-2 inhibitor selected from meloxicam or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof ....” Support for these amendments can be found, e.g., on page 13, lines 25-28, of the application as filed, and on page 9, lines 23-25, of the priority provisional application (U.S. Serial No. 60/059,195).

New claims 71-74 have been added. Support for these new claims can be found, e.g., on page 7, lines 3-8, of the application as filed, and on page 7, lines 11-16, of the priority provisional application.

It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added by virtue of the present amendments.

Claims 38, 47, 48, 53-74 are pending.

Claims 38, 47, 48, 53-61 and 63-74 are directed to the elected invention, including the elected species.

### **B. Interview Summary**

Applicants hereby make of record the substance of the telephonic interview conducted on August 22, 2011, between the undersigned attorney and Primary Examiner Christopher M. Gross.

During the interview, the Examiner indicated that the arguments presented in the response filed on February 25, 2011, had not yet been fully considered.

The Examiner further indicated that amending any of the pending claims to recite that the amount of the COX-2 inhibitor administered is lower than the amount that would normally be required to produce adequate analgesia when the COX-2 inhibitor is administered alone may expedite allowance of that claim(s).

New claims 71-74, each reciting that in the claimed methods "the amount of the COX-2 inhibitor administered is lower than the amount of the COX-2 inhibitor that would normally be required to produce analgesia when the COX-2 inhibitor is used alone" are being presented herein.


Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner considers the new claims after considering the arguments presented in the response filed on February 25, 2011.

Applicants thank the Examiner for participating in the telephonic interview and respectfully request that the substance of this interview be made of record.

### **III. CONCLUSION**

An allowance of the present application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By:   
Oleg Ioselevich, Reg. No. 56,963

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC  
Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights  
485 Seventh Avenue, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10018  
(212) 736-1940